

Application No.: 10/560,951
Filing Date: October 6, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A polyamide-based multilayer film ~~comprising~~ consisting of at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and at least one polyamide layer,

the at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer comprising a polyamide-based resin, an alcohol-based compound, and a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer,

the at least one polyamide layer comprising an aliphatic polyamide as a principal ingredient and an aromatic polyamide in concentration of 2.0 to 10 wt. % polyamide-based ~~multilayer film being highly suitable for boiling and water treatment and retort treatment.~~

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer further comprises an inorganic water-absorptive substance.

4. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer is prepared by melt-blending a polyamide-based resin with an alcohol-based compound, and then adding a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer.

5. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the polyamide-based resin comprises an aliphatic nylon as a principal ingredient, the saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer has an ethylene content of 60 mol% or less, and the degree of saponification of the vinyl acetate moieties is at least 90 mol%.

6. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the at least one polyamide layer is a layer ~~comprising a polyamide and~~ further comprises an antioxidant.

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7. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 6, wherein the polyamide comprises an aliphatic polyamide as a principal ingredient and the antioxidant is a phenol-based antioxidant.

8. (Original) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 7, wherein the phenol-based antioxidant is at least one member selected from the group consisting of 3,9-bis[2-{3-(3-*t*-butyl-4-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl)propionyloxy}-1,1-dimethylethyl]-2,4,8,10-tetraoxaspiro[5,5]undecane; 6-[3-(3-*t*-butyl-4-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl)propoxy]-2,4,8,10-tetra-*t*-butylbenz[d,f][1,3,2]dioxaphosphopin; and pentaerythrityl-tetrakis[3-(3,5-di-*t*-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionate].

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, ~~comprising~~ wherein said at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and said at least one polyamide layer form at least three layers in the order of polyamide layer/saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer/polyamide layer.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a polyamide-based multilayer film, the method comprising the steps of:

coextruding a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer (A) prepared by melt-blending a polyamide-based resin with an alcohol-based compound and then adding an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer thereto, together with polyamide layers (B) and (C) each comprising a polyamide and an antioxidant, in the order of (B)/(A)/(C) to form a laminated film, wherein the polyamide layers (B) and (C) each comprises an aliphatic polyamide as a principal ingredient and an aromatic polyamide in concentration of 2.0 to 10 wt. %; and

biaxially stretching the film.

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13. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to ~~claims~~ claim 3, wherein the polyamide-based resin comprises an aliphatic nylon as a principal ingredient, the saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer has an ethylene content of 60 mol% or less, and the degree of saponification of the vinyl acetate moieties is at least 90 mol%.

14. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 4, wherein the polyamide-based resin comprises an aliphatic nylon as a principal ingredient, the saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer has an ethylene content of 60 mol% or less, and the degree of saponification of the vinyl acetate moieties is at least 90 mol%.

15-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 3 ~~comprising wherein~~ said at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and said at least one polyamide layer form at least three layers in the order of polyamide layer/saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer/polyamide layer.

22. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 4 ~~comprising wherein~~ said at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and said at least one polyamide layer form at least three layers in the order of polyamide layer/saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer/polyamide layer.

23. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 5 ~~comprising wherein~~ said at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and said at least one polyamide layer form at least three layers in the order of polyamide layer/saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer/polyamide layer.

24. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 6 ~~comprising wherein~~ said at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and said

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at least one polyamide layer form at least three layers in the order of polyamide layer/saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer/polyamide layer.

25. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 7 ~~comprising~~ wherein said at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and said at least one polyamide layer form at least three layers in the order of polyamide layer/saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer/polyamide layer.

26. (Currently Amended) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 8 ~~comprising~~ wherein said at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and said at least one polyamide layer form at least three layers in the order of polyamide layer/saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer/polyamide layer.

27. (Currently Amended) A polyamide-containing multilayer transparent film ~~comprising~~ consisting of:

at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer comprising: (i) a polyamide-based resin which contains nylon-6 as a principal ingredient; (ii) an alcohol-based compound ~~which contains alcoholic OH-group~~, and (iii) a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer; and

at least one polyamide layer laminated on the saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer, wherein the polyamide layer comprises an aliphatic polyamide as a principal ingredient and an aromatic polyamide in concentration of 2.0 to 10 wt. %,

said polyamide-based multilayer film having boiling resistance as measured by transparency substantially unchanged for 30 minutes or longer in boiling water at 85°C or for 30 minutes or longer in retort treatment at 121-135°C.

28. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-containing multilayer transparent film according to claim 27, wherein a weight ratio of the polyamide-based resin to the alcohol-based compound is 99/1 to 60/40.

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29. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-containing multilayer transparent film according to claim 27, wherein the saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer and the polyamide layer are laminated by co-extrusion and biaxial stretching.

30. (Previously Presented) The polyamide-containing multilayer transparent film according to claim 27, wherein the at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer is a center layer, and the at least one polyamide layer comprises two layers between which the center layer is sandwiched.

31. (New) The polyamide-based multilayer film according to claim 1, wherein the at least one polyamide layer further comprises a modified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer and an ethylene-methacrylic acid copolymer ionomer.

32. (New) A polyamide-based multilayer film consisting of at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer, at least one polyamide layer, and at least one additional aromatic polyamide layer,

the at least one saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer layer comprising a polyamide-based resin, an alcohol-based compound, and a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer,

the at least one polyamide layer comprising an aliphatic polyamide as a principal ingredient and an aromatic polyamide in concentration of 2.0 to 10 wt. %.